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Bangalore Mirror

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BANNER BAR

BBMP warns of one year jail for any set-up printing flex banners without requisite permissions

CITY / PAGE 2

GAME OVER

Despite notice from civic agency, sports academy continues to create quite a racket in residential area

CITY / PAGE 4

If simple rainwater harvesting system is installed at the purple and green lines of Namma Metro, water quality of 6 lakes currently receiving treated water or sewage can be improved considerably

GO, CATCH THE RAIN

Distance between lakes and metro lines is less than 300 mt

Garima Prasher
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Water quality in six city lakes - Benniganahalli, Kengeri, Nayandanahalli Kere, Lalbagh, Dasarahalli, and Yediur, currently receiving treated water or sewage, can be improved provided a simple rainwater harvesting (RWH) system is installed at the purple and green lines of Namma Metro.

An analysis of the distance between existing metro lines and the six above-mentioned lakes (less than 300 metres) shows rainwater can be harnessed with ease to improve water quality.

"All six lakes are situated adjacent to metro lines, and this provides a good opportunity to collect rainwater from metro pillars. Currently, Kengeri and Nayandahalli Lakes are supplied with tertiary treated water, and Lalbagh Lake has a sewage treatment plant. The rest of the four lakes are fed by stormwater drains. All the lakes have a history of the worst water quality with high levels of faecal and total coliform bacteria, except Kengeri Lake. Replenishing the treated and sewage-laden water with rainwater would surely improve the water quality," said Raghavendra B Pachhapur of ActionAid Association, a city-based NGO that has conducted the analysis with the help of students.

The analysis has identified the nearest low-lying area at the lake and the closest metro pillar that can be used to harness rainwater.

Notably, a couple of months

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

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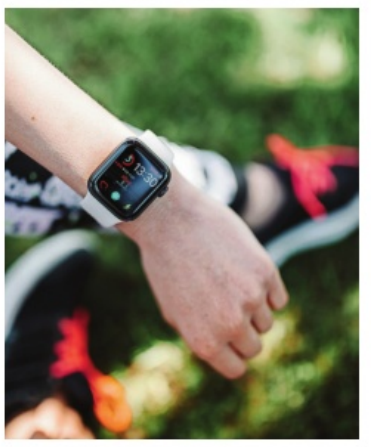
>
> — Raghavendra B Pachhapur, ActionAid Association

Time is up for digital watches



As some schools ban digital watches, students and parents question if outright ban best way to deal with tech

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After mobile phones, schools now seem to be gunning for digital watches. Many schools are sending circulars asking parents not to allow their kids to wear digital watches especially when they are coming to school. A recent circular by a prominent school said, "Students of grades 8, 9 and 10 can wear analog watches only- Digital and smart watches will be confiscated."

A school principal said, "The rationale behind this ban is rooted in concerns over distraction and academic integrity. Digital watches, especially those with smart features, can be a significant source of distraction. Students might use them to access apps, messages, or even gaming functions, which undermines the focus required for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

3 THINGS TO DO

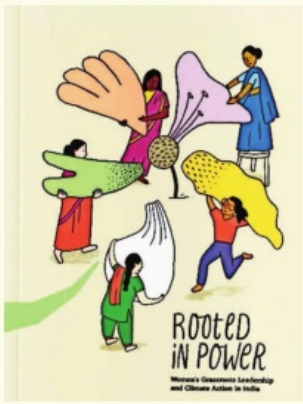
01 Automotive art exhibit

A call to art enthusiasts, collectors, and car aficionados. Explore an eclectic mix of automotive-themed artworks in "Automotive Rhapsody," an art exhibition by Princess Vidita Singh Barwani, curated by Belinda Fernandez, founder of Artella. The exhibit will be inaugurated by HH Maharaja Yaduveer Wadiyar of Mysore. Visitors can expect to encounter a diverse array of artworks, including oil on canvas, watercolour, and charcoal, all inspired by the world of automobiles. **Where: Art Houz Gallery, Palace Road; When: August 9 to 11, 10:30 am to 6 pm**

02 Slice of life realism

Delve into a play that explores the themes of unrequited love, fame vs pursuit of art, and artistic struggles, still relevant to this day, about 130 years after it was first written. "The Seagull" is a story that explores the romantic and artistic struggles of four characters: famous writer Boris Trigorin, young actress Nina, ageing actress Irina Arkadina, and her son, playwright Constantine Treplev. **Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield When: August 9 and 10**

03 Voices of change



Join in for the launch of a graphic narrative book, "Rooted in Power: Women's Grassroots Leadership and Climate Action in India," followed by a conversation on 'Women and Climate Change.' The book, co-created by Asar in collaboration with several civil society organisations, aims to uncover powerful stories of the hope, resilience, and transformative leadership of women from different parts of the country as they lie at the frontlines of the climate crisis. **Where: Champaca Bookstore, Vasanth Nagar; When: August 10, 4 pm to 6 pm**

Printers beware: Illegal flex may land you in jail

Licence cancellation, 1-year jail term, and fine of ₹2 lakh for printing unauthorised flex or banners: BBMP

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The display of unauthorised flex or banner advertisements continues unabated in the city. To tackle this menace, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has now warned of one-year imprisonment for those found to be printing these illegal flexes. All zonal-level officers have been instructed to personally inform each printer in the city not to print any unauthorised flex or banner advertisements.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has directed all zonal-level officers to submit a report within five days. "BBMP is taking several measures to control unauthorised flex and banner advertisements. In this regard, the BBMP and police department have already prepared a joint standard operating procedure (SOP) and issued orders. The Commissioner has instructed that the order should be given to each flex and banner printer in the city and strictly followed. The BBMP's advertising department should also submit a report on how many flex and banner printers have been instructed in the city. This task should be carried out by joint commissioners, zonal chief officers, and assistant revenue officers (advertising)," the chief commissioner said.

In case of further violations, the printer's business licence will be cancelled, along with an imposition of Rs 2 lakh in fine and one-year imprisonment. Those who provide space for such advertisements will also be punished. The customers should provide a permission letter from the BBMP. The printers must verify and keep a copy of the permission letter for the flex, banners, posters, and hoardings that are to be printed.

BBMP workers are removing illegal hoardings and banners in the city in this file photo

Curbs for long-term lease

Meanwhile, the Urban Development Department has issued a draft notification on the management of BBMP assets, which restricts lease durations to a maximum of 30 years. The BBMP (Asset Management) Rules-2024 have been published in the state gazette, and a 30-day period has been provided for submitting objections. According to the draft, properties can be leased for five years with the necessary standing committee approval. For leases extending beyond five years and up to 15 years, council approval is required. Leases ranging from 15 to 30 years must have state government approval. Properties cannot be leased for more than 30 years, and existing leases exceeding this limit cannot be renewed beyond 30 years.

BBMP properties can be leased to state or central governments, public sector undertakings, autonomous bodies, and corporations. Leasing for 5-15 years requires council approval, while leases to government entities need prior government approval and must be at guideline values. Sales to other parties are prohibited. All properties must be leased through auction, with successful bidders required to pay a one-time, interest-free deposit. Bidders may bid on multiple properties, but sub-leasing is not permitted. For shop leases, the rules mandate a 17% reservation for Scheduled Castes, 7% for Scheduled Tribes, and 2% for persons with disabilities (above 40%). The draft also includes guidelines for deposits, rent, and lease renewals.

IIHR develops cost-effective freeze-dried dragon fruit powder

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The Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) has developed an innovative freeze-dried dragon fruit powder, offering a significant breakthrough in the preservation and value addition of Kamalam, commonly known as dragon fruit. This new product, led by Dr CK Narayana, Principal Scientist (Horticulture), is set to revolutionise the market with its superior nutritional quality and cost-effective production.

Dragon fruit, especially the red pulp type (Hylocereus polyrhizus) and white pulp type (Hylocereus undatus), has gained immense popularity in India. Over the past five to seven years, its cultivation has spread rapidly across states such as Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and even the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The fruit is celebrated for its high content of antioxidants, fibres, and other essential nutrients, which contribute to its reputation as a superfruit. Among the various value-added products available in the market, dragon fruit powder stands out for its versatility. It is used in a wide range of food items, including ice cream, milkshakes, juices, cakes, puddings, cookies, and more. Currently, spray-dried dragon fruit powder is priced at approximately Rs 4,000 per kilogramme, while freeze-dried powder ranges from Rs. 12,000 to Rs 15,000 per kg. The high cost is largely attributed to the significant investment required in establishing commercial drying facilities.

However, the new method developed by Dr Narayana and his team has drastically reduced production costs by more than 50 per cent, making it a game-changer for the industry. The resulting powder retains a deep magenta or pink colour, which can be used as a natural food colourant, and boasts superior nutritional quality compared to existing commercial samples. Additionally, this technology is well-suited for adoption and commercialisation by micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Recognising the growing importance of dragon fruit, the Government of India, under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, has sanctioned the establishment of a Centre of Excellence on Kamalam (Dragon) Fruit at IIHR-CHES (Central Horticultural Experiment Station), Hirehalli. As the cultivation area expands and more farmers adopt this crop, the risk of price fluctuations due to market saturation looms large. To address this challenge, IIHR has focused on the research and development of preservation, processing, and value-added methods for dragon fruit.

The Kamalam fruit powder-making technology developed by IIHR has already demonstrated its potential through the creation of various value-added products such as cookies, cakes, muffins, dip-tea, and milkshakes, which were showcased during an institute-level technology identification process at IIHR's Hesaraghatta campus. The technology is expected to be available for commercialisation shortly, pending clearance by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Right out of movies: Cop hangs on to dear life, nabs thief

With his safety at risk, police constable manages to catch elusive suspect with 75 cases against him

A dramatic incident unfolded on a busy Bengaluru road on Tuesday when a police constable, Dodda Lingayya, risked his life to apprehend a notorious thief.

Lingayya, who was dressed in civilian clothes, spotted the suspect, Manjesh, riding a two-wheeler. The cop bravely stepped in front of the moving bike, forcing the thief to stop.

However, the situation quickly escalated when Manjesh attempted to flee, dragging the constable for about 20 metres. Despite losing his grip on the suspect's collar, Lingayya tenaciously clung to Manjesh's leg, determined not to let him escape. The commotion caught the attention of two nearby traffic policemen and several bystanders who rushed to assist, leading to his arrest. Manjesh, with 75 pending police cases against him, who had been evading the police after fleeing from Tumakuru district, was finally captured. Authorities recovered Rs 10,000 in cash and 130 grammes of gold jewellery from his possession.

Rail track restored

The first passenger train, Train number 16575 Yesvantpur-Mangaluru Junction Gomateshwara Express, successfully traversed the recently restored section between Kadagaravalli and Yedakumeri Stations on the Sakleshpur-Subramanya Road at 12:37 pm, signalling the revival of rail services in the region. For safety reasons, a precautionary speed limit of 15 kmph has been imposed. The restoration, executed by dedicated teams from the Mysore Division, encountered numerous challenges due to adverse weather but was completed with unwavering determination. The track was certified as safe for goods trains on August 4, 2024, at 8:58 am, following a thorough engine rolling test. On August 6, a fully loaded goods train successfully navigated the restored track, validating the success of the restoration efforts.

Mentally ill man tries to kill himself

A man with a history of mental illness sparked a tense situation in Bengaluru when he climbed to the top of a newly constructed four-story building behind Seshadripuram College, trying to kill himself.

The young man, identified as Manju, alarmed locals as he stood precariously on the edge of the building, declaring his intent to jump. Manju, who had previously been admitted to a mental hospital, was heard saying, "I am studying very well. I am going to fly away from here and die." As the situation became more critical, concerned residents quickly alerted the police. Despite his unpredictable behaviour and refusal to cooperate, the police maintained patience and composure. At one point, Manju smashed his mobile phone, demanding that his wife and mother come to the site. As the officers continued to engage with him, emergency preparations were made to ensure his safety. After a tense standoff, the police successfully persuaded him to move away from the edge and safely brought him down. He was then taken to the station for further questioning.

-Sanjana CS

Helpline numbers

If you are aware of anyone facing mental health issues or feeling suicidal, please provide help, reach out to helpline centres:
Sahai (24-hour): 080 65000111, 080 6500022;
iCall: 9152987821

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Electric bus drivers told to keep off flooded roads

'B'luru: Natural choice for TiE Global Summit'

With the IT hub's GDP projected to grow at 8.25 per cent by 2035, it is not surprising that Bengaluru is the preferred venue for global events like the ninth TiE Global Summit (TGS), said IT-BT and Rural Development Minister Priyank Kharge on Thursday at the curtain-raiser event organised in Bengaluru. "When it comes to support for events like TGS, which needs access to the government, its policy, and its funds-it can be found only in Karnataka," he said. **-PTI**

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Get, set, noise: Sports academy breaks rules

Residents in Padmanabhanagar upset over BBMP's failure to shut down illegal training centre causing chaos; despite complaints and closure notice, centre remains open

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c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Pro Legacy Sports Academy, located in Raghavendra Layout, Padmanabhanagar Ward

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is required to obtain a no-objection certificate from neighbours before issuing a trade license for a hotel or sports academy. However, despite complaints by residents, BBMP authorities have failed to prevent noise pollution in Raghavendra Layout, a residential area, where a sports academy has become a significant source of disruption, particularly affecting senior citizens in the vicinity.

Expressing grave concerns over the BBMP's inaction, Nischith Ashok Kumar, a resident of Raghavendra Layout, Padmanabhanagar Ward, said that visitors to Pro Legacy Sports Academy create constant noise pollution from early morning until 11:30 pm. "The academy uses a microphone during these hours. Despite the BBMP confirming the illegal status of this setup and serving a notice to vacate, the Pro Legacy Sports Academy remains operational. This ongoing disturbance has significantly disrupted our daily lives. I demand accountability and immediate closure of this illegally operating sports academy," said Nischith.

Chethan, another resident said, "I urge the BBMP to take suitable action against the sports academy for violating the norms."

Srikanth Narasimhan, Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) Founder and General Secretary, said the situation is a blatant example of how corruption and lack of accountability have compromised the duties of the BBMP. "The citizens' trust in this governing body has been severely undermined by their failure to act against those who violate the law and create a public nuisance. Notices have been ignored, and the illegal operations continue with absolute freedom and unafraid of consequences," said Narasimhan.

The residents said that a letter detailing the issue has been sent to various authorities, including Senior Health Inspector, Health officer, Medical Officer, Zonal Commissioner. Still, none of them have taken any action against the illegal sports academy. This inaction persists despite the BBMP having clarified that the operations are illegal and issuing a directive to vacate the premises. No follow-up action has been taken, leaving residents with no recourse.

> **"Citizens' trust in this governing body has been undermined by their failure to act against those who violate the law** – Srikanth N, BNP Founder

The residents have also approached Chennammanakere Achukattu Police Station seeking relief. The Police Inspector issued an acknowledgement to the complainant (Nischith Ashok Kumar) on July 2, 2024, stating that he had summoned the people responsible and advised them not to create a nuisance. The Police Inspector said that the complaint lodged by Nischith Ashok Kumar was closed after advising the accused person.

The BBMP Health Officer issued notices to Pro Legacy Sports Academy on December 26, 2023 and on July 1, 2024, to shut down the academy within seven days after receiving the notice. However, the academy continues its activities. "We have issued two notices to Pro Legacy Sports Academy ordering its closure. Now, we have decided to issue a notice to the land owner for allowing commercial activities on the site meant for residential purposes," said BBMP Health Officer, Dr Kalpana.

NGT questions forest dept on encroachments

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The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has sent fresh notices to the Karnataka Forest Department and Ministry of Environment and Forest, Karnataka regarding encroachment of forest areas in the Bengaluru urban district. The tribunal has served the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, KFD, District Magistrate, Bengaluru Urban and State Environment Ministry for not complying with the environmental norms, especially Karnataka Forest Act 1963, the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, and the Environment Protection Act, 1986.

The principal bench of the green court took cognizance of the matter based on media reports highlighting illegal encroachment of 2,045 acres of forest land in the district out of the 24,690 acres of forest area available. "The news item highlights that government agencies were among the encroachers in many cases. Hindustan Machine Tools & Bangalore Development Authority were evicted from 18 acres, 7 acres, and 18 gutas, respectively. Many individuals have also secured status quo orders from the Karnataka High Court. The article claims that most years, the recovery is around 10 to 15 acres due to complicated legal procedures," noted the NGT.

The data on forest encroachment was presented by Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B Khandre in the Karnataka Legislative Council recently. As per the data, 705 encroachment cases have been registered across all five ranges of Bengaluru urban district so far. The maximum number of encroachment cases (255) have been registered from the KR Puram range,

followed by 244 cases from the Kaggalipura range, 90 encroachment cases from the Anekal range, 84 cases from the Bangalore range, and 32 cases from the Yelahanka range.

Kaggalipura range has the highest amount of forest land (over 945 acres) to be recovered from illegal occupiers. The KR Puram range follows with nearly 571 acres, while the Anekal range has 357 acres, the Bangalore range 104 acres, and the Yelahanka range 65 acres.

Forest encroachment cases in Karnataka are rising at an alarming rate. Data from the state's forest department reveals that Bengaluru Circle recorded 743 cases between April 2023 and March 2024, a significant increase from 140 cases the previous year. These cases were recorded from the Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Ramanagara, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, and Bannerghatta National Park divisions. In 2021-22, only 69 forest encroachment cases were reported from the circle. The numbers were 133 cases in 2020-21 and 83 cases in 2019-20.

Despite the significant increase in encroachment cases, the disposal rate has been abysmal. This year, only five encroachment cases from the Bangalore Circle were resolved. As of March 30, 2024, the Circle has 5,408 pending encroachment cases awaiting disposal.

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Road hazard
RR Nagar

Vehicles are getting stuck in trenches cut across Double Road in RR Nagar because they haven't been properly closed.

Trash cleared
Gandhi Nagar

After the BM report, the trash was cleared on Thursday morning. Gandhinagar MLA Dinesh G's office said it was inadvertently reported as Majestic area but was actually in Nagarathpet, Chickpet constituency, and was still cleared.

Unsafe pavement
Dasarahalli Road

Broken and loose slabs next to an electricity pole at the corner of the Brigade Triumph building on Dasarahalli Road pose a hazard to pedestrians, yet no authority has taken responsibility for their repair.

Advertorial

Bone Cancer: Dr. Pramod Urges for First-Time-Right Treatment with Policy Support

Precaution, Awareness & Early Treatment are Essential

Sarcoma is an umbrella term that encompasses a diverse array of cancerous growths that originate in the bones and soft tissues, also known as connective tissues. With more than 70 different types of sarcoma identified, the specific treatment approach for each case is determined by factors such as the particular type of sarcoma, its location within the body, and other relevant considerations. The heterogeneous nature of sarcoma requires a personalized treatment plan to effectively address the unique characteristics of each patient's condition.

Sarcoma Awareness Month is a global healthcare event observed throughout the month of July every year for the past 16 years, dedicated to raising awareness about sarcoma. This month emphasizes the importance of educating the local community about recent advancements, early diagnosis, and the impact on the families of those affected.

On this occasion, Dr. Pramod Chinder, Orthopaedic Oncosurgeon at the Yellow Ribbon, spoke to Bangalore Mirror about the need for a comprehensive overhaul of the sarcoma support system, as children with sarcoma are often curable but are neglected in terms of care.

PAIN OF CONCERN

Parents tend to overlook the pains felt by their children as tumbling down and facing minor injuries is the way of childhood. These pains, which may initially present as stiffness, pain, swelling, or tenderness in or near the bone, are often dismissed as trivial and aches that will eventually fade. However, growing pains, where children experience pain around the knees and shoulders more than two to three weeks, must be checked out. If the pain wakes the child up at night, is only on one side, or requires pain medication, it should be investigated.

Lumps may also appear when the cells have multiplied to a large extent. Parents must get an MRI scan done to ensure it is not a case of cancer. When suspected with a pain of concern, my suggestion is to prefer MRIs over X-rays, as MRIs help in early detection and are ubiquitously available in new India (Bharat). If a biopsy is required, it is important to consult a specialist. Are amputations necessary to get rid of sarcomas in children? Can robotic surgery and 3D printing be made use of in this aspect? Amputations are no longer the primary treatment for sarcomas in children. Most cases are treated with a combination of surgery and chemotherapy, and sometimes radiation.

Chemotherapy and /or radiation may be given before surgery to shrink the tumor and afterward to ensure all cancer cells are eliminated. Treating children, who are still growing and developing, presents special challenges and can be tackled well.

Advances in surgical techniques, such as robotic surgery, are making a profound difference. Robotic surgery allows specially trained surgeons to use minuscule surgical tools and a computer console to help in removing tumours from complex areas like pelvis with increased precision and control. The robotic system's high-definition, 3D viewer also enables surgeons to see the surgical site better than with conventional magnification.

3D printing can help in precise surgical resections and customized reconstruction of bone tumors by enabling the design and fabrication. Bone allograft transplantation offers a biologic reconstruction that can restore bone stock and joint kinematics while sparing the opposing articular surface.

Could you tell us more about your rule of five?

A cancer diagnosis can trigger a range of emotions and lead to stress, fatigue, and isolation. Concerns about image, mortality, and financial burden can exacerbate mental health challenges. Discussing together with five loved ones – friends and family, will greatly help in solving logistics of care including finances, food, schooling and other essentials.

What does the ideal policy change look like to you? The standard treatment for osteosarcoma is chemotherapy with the MAP (methotrexate, doxorubicin, and cisplatin) regimen, which is not covered under any government schemes.

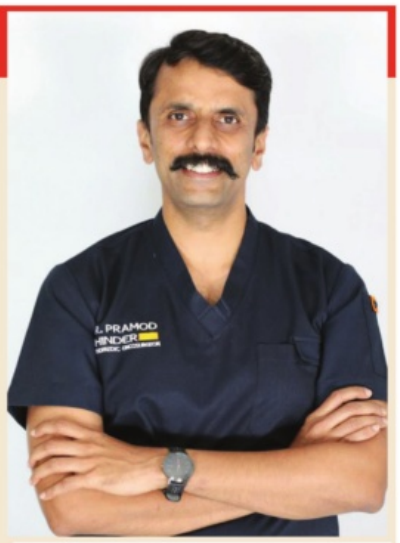
Many countries have formed policies keeping the MAP regimen in mind, and any policy formed must ensure that providing the MAP regimen remains at the heart. Like blood banks, bone banks are essential for providing bone grafts, and there is a need for a national bone bank centre to be constituted and maintained with world-class standards with public-private partnership with stakeholders.

A holistic approach is necessary to ensure the well-being of sarcoma patients. A nationalized institute for research and care must be developed in the country, with subsequent associated centres to get affiliated adequately across the states and districts. The government must take measures to ensure that these 1% of children are well taken care of, representing Indian society as inclusive and forthcoming.

The support system helped by the government must have a center designated for the child to continue their educational prospects without hindrance. Parents must be provided accommodation, as they often need to travel from far-off places between a span of 6-8 months, for a few days. The government should also consider incorporating Indian sciences such as Ayurveda and yoga into the care system for a wider approach. The response from the government after sending them multiple letters has been dismal, and they must consider having an elaborate stakeholder meeting with the medical fraternity involved in sarcoma.

We can write Pocket lessons

- Do not neglect pains without injury in children
- Early MRI is better
- Seek help from family and friends - Diacuss
- Check with schemes
- Let children participate - discuss openly and be fearless
- Food. Nutrition . Yoga and sleep is very important



DR. PRAMOD CHINDER
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As per Janaagraha's study, GBG Bill is half as effective as BBC-GBG Bill, got dismal 3.5 out of 10 on analysing

Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill 2024 — Hits and misses

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State government constituted the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Restructuring Committee in 2014, which was later renamed the Brand Bengaluru Committee (BBC) in 2024. The BBC was tasked with the crucial responsibility of designing a new and modern governance structure for Bengaluru to retain its preeminent position.

Accordingly, the Committee has prepared a draft bill which has many elements. However, the Greater Bengaluru Governance (GBG) Bill, which was tabled in the Karnataka legislative assembly on 23 July 2024, does not incorporate many progressive aspects of governance which are necessary for building a vibrant, modern Bengaluru in the 21st century.

Janaagraha has undertaken an in-depth comparative analysis of the GBG Bill and the BBC-GBG Bill based on the city-systems framework of Janaagraha. This framework is the basis for their flagship study, the Annual Survey of India's City-Systems (ASICS).

The study evaluates the four bills/acts along 33 parameters, scoring them on a scale of 0 to 10. The GBG Bill scores poorly across all four city-systems components including urban planning and design, urban capacities and resources, empowered and legitimate political representation, and transparency, accountability, and civic participation. Overall, the GBG Bill scored a dismal 3.35 out of 10. The study revealed that the GBG Bill is less than half as effective as the BBC-GBG Bill.

Involving citizens, urban experts and civil society organisations to contribute to the bill would benefit more

Speaking about the Bill, Srikanth Viswanathan, Chief Executive Officer, Janaagraha, said that Bengaluru is a significant contributor to the national economy. "The city deserves a modern and innovative governance model to be able to continue on its robust path of growth. The expectation that the GBG Bill will usher in a progressive governance model, which could facilitate significant improvement in different aspects of people's lives, has been betrayed with the tabling of a very limiting bill. It is also disappointing to note that the government has chosen to ignore many of the desirable recommendations of the Brand Bengaluru Committee. Through this study, we have drawn attention to some key areas that need attention and decisive action from the government," said Srikanth Viswanathan.

Santosh Nargund, Head of Participatory Governance, Janaagraha, added that the people of Bengaluru have great hopes from the Bengaluru restructuring effort. "There's palpable optimism that it ought to make significant improvement in their day-to-day lives through better planning, improved coordination between civic agencies, responsive civic authorities, and more professional governance. But the GBG Bill tabled in the assembly is quite disappointing. Yet, all may not be lost. Now that the Bill is referred to the House Committee, the government must give wide publicity to the Bill and invite citizens, urban experts, and civil society organisations alike to actively contribute to improving the Bill, before adopting the same," said Santosh Nargund.

> **"The city deserves a modern and innovative governance model to be able to continue on its robust path of growth**
>
> –Srikanth Viswanathan, CEO, Janaagraha

VR Vachana, Head of Municipal Law and Policy, Janaagraha, said while Bengaluru currently has a city-specific municipal legislation, it does not address metropolitan governance as the legislation governs a part of the city based on municipal boundaries. "For Bengaluru to be able to deliver a good quality of life to its citizens, it needs to have legislation that caters to the 21st century opportunities and challenges. Our assessment of the GBG Bill, 2024 aims to draw attention towards critical aspects across planning and capacities, and decentralised and participatory governance that should be strengthened to create a new law governing Bengaluru," said Vachana.

Apartments responsible for 'no lifeguards at pools': HC

Karnataka High Court has ruled that office bearers of apartment owners' associations can be held criminally liable for negligence if a death occurs in their swimming pool that is left unguarded without any lifeguard or safety measures in place.

Justice M Nagaprasanna made these observations while permitting the criminal prosecution of six office bearers of Prestige Lakeside Habitat Home Owners Association in Bengaluru. The petitioners had challenged the criminal proceedings related to the death of a nine-year-old girl, Manya Dameria, who died in the decorative pool area attached to the swimming pool on December 28, 2023.

Although the High Court quashed the charge sheet filed against the office bearers under Section 304 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), it invoked Section 304A of the IPC against them, holding them accountable for the maintenance and affairs of the apartment complex. The court clarified that the petitioners could not be charged with an intention to kill but could be held responsible for negligence.

HC stays mandate for compulsory rural service by PG medical students who graduated before August 2023

Karnataka High Court has temporarily halted the implementation of a notification that mandates students who completed their PG medical courses before August 2023 to register for compulsory rural service. The interim order was passed by a single judge bench of Justice SR Krishna Kumar while considering a petition filed by Dr Suvetha P and others.

The petitioners, who are students who finished their PG Medical courses in August 2023, argued that the Karnataka Compulsory Service by Candidates Completed Medical Courses (Amendment) Act, 2023, which introduced compulsory rural service, was not applicable to them as it was not retrospective in nature. They contended that the impugned notification, based on the amendment, was illegal, arbitrary and without jurisdiction or authority of law, deserving to be quashed.

The government advocates requested time to file an objection. In response, the court stated, "In the meanwhile, the operation and implementation of the impugned notification dated 12 July 2024 insofar as the petitioners are concerned is hereby stayed till the next date of hearing." Previously, the court had instructed the petitioners to comply with the registration requirement outlined in the relevant notification, clarifying that the registration was mandated solely for procedural compliance and will not prejudice the petitioners' rights to seek appropriate interim relief from the Court during subsequent hearings.

Bengaluru court issues summons to CM, Deputy CM in connection with 2022 protest

A Bengaluru court on Thursday issued summons to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy DK Shivakumar asking them to appear personally before it on August 29 in a case related to their participation in a protest against the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) repeatedly questioning Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in the National Herald case more than two years ago.

The protest was organised by the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee in June 2022 against 'unnecessary harassment' of Rahul Gandhi by the ED in connection with the case. Defying restrictive orders, the Congress leaders, including Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, had staged the demonstration.

A case was subsequently registered at the Wilson Garden Police Station, alleging that the protest disrupted public peace and was conducted without required permission from authorities. A similar case filed at the Shivajinagar Police Station was quashed by the Karnataka High Court later.

Private complaint filed in court against Karnataka CM over MUDA 'scam'

A private complaint was filed on Thursday against Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the Special Court for Elected Representatives over the alleged Mysuru Urban Development Authority site allotment 'scam'.

The complainant, Mysuru-based activist Snehamai Krishna, has alleged CM's involvement in the 'scam.' Siddaramaiah had misused his powers, the complainant alleged and sought a direction from the court for an inquiry against him by the CBI or any independent investigation agency.

Reacting to it, the Chief Minister said he has "strength to reply to false complaints."

–AGENCIES

Electric bus drivers told to keep off flooded roads

After fire incident, BMTC gets ready with additional precautions; issues dos and don'ts for its fleet during remaining months of rain

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation is advising its Electric Vehicle fleet drivers to exercise caution on the flooded roads as the city continues to receive rainfall.

Following a fire incident involving an electric bus on route 500QA/9, BMTC is stressing safety for electric buses amid the ongoing rainy season. Initial findings indicate that rainwater logging caused an electrical fault leading to the fire. National Thermal Power Corporation Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd. and Jay Bharat Maruti Ltd are inspecting the bus and have asked for a week to investigate. JBM has advised drivers to avoid risky areas near waterlogged roads.

The BMTC electric bus registered as KA 41 D 2679, caught fire near Kempapura around 10:50 PM on August 5, after suddenly losing power. All passengers were safely evacuated, and no injuries were reported. The incident occurred when the bus, travelling from Tin Factory to Goraguntepalya, lost power and came to a halt. The quick-thinking driver and conductor transferred passengers to another bus before noticing smoke emerge from the rear of the vehicle. They immediately evacuated the bus and alerted JBM Company and Fire engines arrived promptly and extinguished the flames, with BMTC's night patrol staff also assisting. The representatives of the JBM company took the bus to Kengeri for further inspection and assessment.

As the rainy season continues, BMTC is putting additional precautions in place to protect the electric components of its buses from water damage. The Chief Mechanical Engineer at BMTC stated, " We have given oral do's and don'ts to all drivers and are working on issuing official guidelines. Drivers are instructed to use their intuition and avoid risk-prone areas."

BMTC Electric Bus

> **We have given oral do's and dont's to all drivers and are working on issuing official guidelines. Drivers are instructed to use their intuition** –BMTC official

BMTC has implemented specific measures to safeguard the buses, acknowledging the city's water logging issues. While the buses are generally safe when running for extended periods, prolonged exposure to water can be risky. "If water touches the bus body, it usually soaks within 15 minutes, but in cases, if water touches the body for a longer time, it's difficult to take a chance," the Chief Mechanical Engineer added.

To assist drivers in real time, BMTC has equipped the buses with dashboards that alert drivers to any system issues or breakdowns. Authorities have also informed drivers to avoid high-risk areas, and alternative routes will be provided when waterlogging is expected. In case of emergency, passengers are to evacuate immediately.

BMTC reassured the public that public safety remains the highest priority. "We are deeply committed to preventing any future incidents and enhancing our safety protocols," BMTC officials affirmed.

-Sanjana CS

Scholarship delays ignite rally

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Hundreds of medical students, led by the All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO), staged a massive protest at Freedom Park today. The demonstration was fueled by widespread frustration over technical glitches in the State Scholarship Portal portal that have prevented students from accessing their scholarships, some of which have been withheld for two years.

Students, many struggling financially, rallied to demand immediate government action. The protest was spirited with placards and chants, as they called for justice and the release of their essential scholarships.

Addressing the gathering, one of the protest leaders highlighted the severe implications of the government's inaction. "The irony of today is that the government is refusing to give scholarships to those medical students who possess a genuine concern for society and a desire to serve the people. This scholarship isn't a mere alms but a reward for the countless sacrifices made by students. Renaissance thinkers and freedom fighters sacrificed their lives for the betterment of society, for free, equal, and quality education. But now, education has become a commodity," the protester declared, drawing loud applause from the crowd.

Students expressed deep anguish and emphasised how critical these scholarships are for them. "Even to this day, last year's scholarship is not yet received. For fourth-year MBBS students, the scholarship portal was closed even before they could apply, citing technical issues. Second, third, and fourth-year medical students should get around 60,000 to 80,000 rupees as their scholarship amount. This movement is just the beginning. It is the government's responsibility to answer us and release the scholarship immediately," one of the students said.

Medical students protest at Freedom Park, on Thursday

What's in a name?

The Karnataka High Court dismissed a public interest litigation on Thursday that challenged the government's decision to rename the Basavanagudi corporation ward to Doddaganapathi. The petition, filed by Satyalaxmi Rao and others, was heard by a division bench consisting of Chief Justice N V Anjaria and Justice K V Aravind.

In its ruling, the court stated, "Subject matter of change of name of ward or city cannot be formed part of the agitation in a public interest litigation, no public interest is made out to grant any relief to the petitioner." The petitioners had requested the court to overturn the Urban Development Department's notification dated 25 September 2023, arguing that "The name Basavanagundi has historical and cultural importance and it is a matter of pride for the residents that the ward belongs to the renowned persons."

The court observed that multiple ward names in Bengaluru had been changed per notification and that ward delimitation was underway. The court dismissed the petition.

BM Food & Night Life

'Rainwater prevents lake quality deterioration'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ago, BMRCL had called a tender to implement Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) to ensure groundwater recharge using rain falling on metro tracks. The tender was called to dig RWH pits below the metro's viaduct of purple and green line stations.

As per the report, Benniganahalli and Kengeri Lakes have metro lines as close as 30 metre away, it is at a 50-metre distance from Nayandanahalli Kere, 167 metre from Lalbagh Lake, 160 metre from Dasarahalli Lake, and 260 metre from Yediyur Lake.

Members from various lake volunteer groups in the city testify that feeding lakes with rainwater prevents the water quality from deteriorating further.

For quality's sake

According to a lake volunteer from Doddakallasandra, the locals pressured BBMP's Lake Department to build an RWH system due to the rejuvenation process. Since then, the lake's water quality has seldom reached Class E.

"While many lakes with STP end up with the worst water quality, Doddakallasandra has rarely entered that class. The lake received rainwater from a nearly 300-metre-long stretch, and this freshwater balances its water quality," said the volunteer.

Experts say better water quality is a necessity, especially in lakes that have a rich biodiversity. The analysis conducted by ActionAid highlights that while Benniganahalli Lake is visited by over 45 different species of birds, including five migratory bird species, over 74 species of birds with nine migratory species visit Kengeri Lake. Similarly, Nayandahalli Lake has seen around 65 bird species, Lalbagh Lake hosts 155 species of birds, Dasarahalli Kere has 54, and Yediyur Kere is frequented by 87 bird species.

"Water quality in Bengaluru lakes is a matter of concern, and replenishing lakes with rainwater is a ray of hope. It can improve the water quality and support a healthy ecosystem. We have submitted the findings of the analysis to BBMP and BMRCL for consideration," added Pachhapur.

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I, Kanojiya Nisha Rajesh D/o Rajesh Horilal Kanojia, R/o F A-501, Virbhadra Prasanna, Rustomji Layout, Whitefield, Bengaluru 560066. I have changed my name to Nisha Rajesh Kanojia vide affidavit dated: 07/08/2024 Before Notary B M Chandrashekar Bangalore.

I, Gantiganahalli VenkatarayappaViswanath R/o No.69, Gantiganahalli, Singanayakana Halli, Bengaluru 560064 have changed my name to Gantiganahalli Venkatarayappa Vishwanath Affidavit Dt.08/08/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Sarikonda Chitti alias Chitti Jagan alias Chitti J D/O Jagan Sarikonda R/O 60,1st main 1st cross nanjundeshawara layout, vajrahalli Bangalore 560062, have changed my name to Chitti J.

I Sethurajan Sellamuthu Gounder S/o Sellamuthugounder R/o #159 SV Nilayam ,1st Main, 3rd 'D' Cross kalyanagar B'lore-560043 have changed my name to Sethuraj Sellamuthugounder for all purposes.

I Venkatesha K R S/o Rangegowda K R/o 68/1 Hasanamba Nilaya 4th Cross Vinayaka Nagar ,Peenya 2nd Stage Thigalarapalya B'lore-560 058 have changed my name to Venkatesh K R for all purposes.

I, Hadiza Saifuddin Barodawala W/o Hussain Mustansir Marfatia R/o No:- 30 2nd Flr 22nd Main 1st Crs Vinayakanagar Ramaswamy Lyt J P Nagar 5th Phase Bangalore 560078 have changed my name to Khadiza Hussain Marfatia for all purposes

I, Rajesh Yadav K N R/o #02 G R Block, 4th 'A' mn rd, Santrupathi Nagar, JP Nagar, 7th Phase B'lore-560078 have changed my minor son's name from Pranavkrishna Rajesh Yadav to Pranavkrishna Yadav Rajesh Yadav for all purposes.

I Srividya W/o Nobel Samson R R/o #149 Helen Villa 1st Main Chandravadana Layout Ramamurthynagar B'lore-560 016 have changed my name to Shreevidhya for all purposes.

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I Simita Bedi W/O, Varinder Bedi R/o House # 2377, First Floor, 16th Main Second Stage Indiranagar, Hal -560008 have changed my name to Simita Puri.

I,V Hanumanthaurayudu, S/o Vadde Ramajineyulu R/o Flat no 106, 1st Floor Winst Sai Kalyan Apartments Coffee Board Layout Hebbal Kempapura Bangalore - 560024 . I have changed my name to Vadde Hanumanthu Rayudu vide affidavit dated: 07/08/2024 Before Notary B M Chandrashekar Bangalore.

I, Syed Usman Gani Haji S/o Syed Abdul Wajid Haji R/o 1084, Ground floor, 7th cross, Hosakote main road, Bengaluru 560067 have changed my name to Syed Usman Ghani Affidavit Dt.08/08/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, LAKSHMIPATHI D G S/o JAYASHANKARAPPA D N R/o Mangala Vidhya Mandira Pakka, Karenahalli DodBallapur, Dodballapura Bangalore-561203 . I have changed my name to LAKSHMIPATHI D J vide affidavit dated: 07/08/2024 Before Notary B M Chandrashekar Bangalore.

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Watch out: Distraction or necessity?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

learning." The principal said the school's goal is to create an environment conducive to learning". Digital watches with internet capabilities or messaging functions can lead to cheating during exams or disrupt classroom activities. By restricting these devices, we aim to minimise these risks. Digital devices, even those worn on the wrist, pose similar challenges to those of mobile phones."

The decision to ban digital watches has been met with mixed reactions from parents. While some support the move, citing concerns over distraction, others see it as an overreach. Meera Kumar, a parent, said, "My daughter uses her digital watch to keep track of her schedule and set reminders for her homework. Banning these watches seems unnecessary and restrictive. It's important for schools to focus on teaching responsibility rather than outright bans. Digital watches can be a valuable tool for students. They help in managing time effectively and even offer health monitoring features that can be beneficial. Instead of banning them, schools should educate students on responsible use."

This tension between maintaining a distraction-free environment and accommodating technological advancements is palpable. Schools are tasked with balancing the benefits of new technologies against their potential drawbacks. Ravi Kumar, a school principal, said, "We understand that technology can be beneficial, but our priority is ensuring that students are not diverted from their educational goals. We are exploring ways to integrate technology responsibly while upholding our academic standards."

On the other hand, some parents argue that the prohibition of digital watches overlooks the potential educational benefits. Priya Desai, a parent, said, "Digital watches can enhance learning through educational apps and help students manage their time better. It feels like an outdated approach to ban such devices outright instead of leveraging them as learning tools."

The debate surrounding digital watch bans highlights a broader discussion about the role of technology in education. As schools grapple with integrating new technologies while preventing misuse, the need for clear policies and open dialogue between educators and parents becomes increasingly apparent.

FILM PAGE 12 THEY'RE ENGAGED

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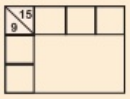
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

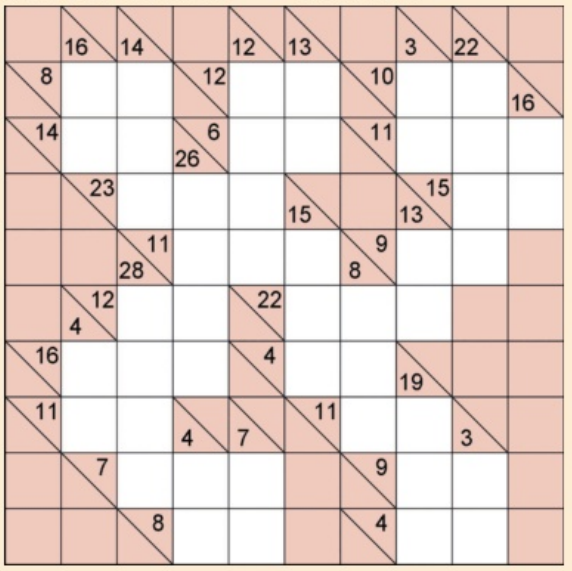
John had a 12 x 12 x 12 cube made up of many 1 x 1 x 1 "mini-cubes" glued together. Due to faulty glue the outermost layer of the smaller cubes fell off. How many of these "mini-cubes" fell off?

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



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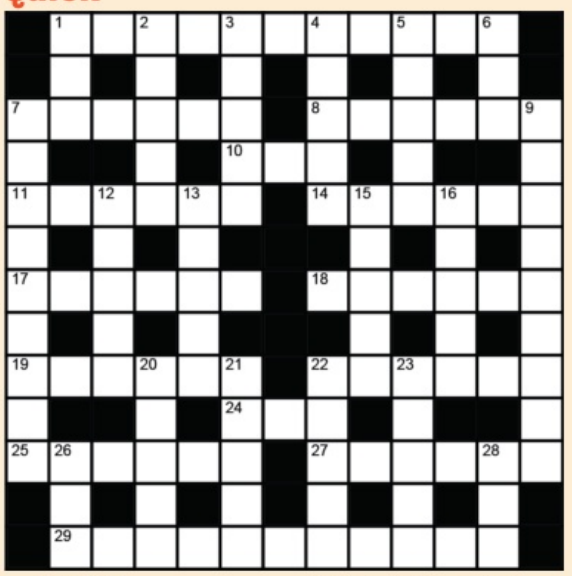

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1 Green coloured insect (11)
7 Whiten, fade or etiolate (6)
8 Faculties (6)
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14 Stratagem (6)
17 Altitude (6)
18 Riches (6)
19 Sight (6)
22 City on the Ganges (6)
24 Metal bearing earth (3)
25 Overly inquisitive (6)
27 Corrugated iron hut (6)
29 Communicative (11)

DOWN

1 Jelly-"leg" anagram? (3)
2 Mitigate, lessen in intensity (5)
3 Mumbai's (Bombay's) International Airport or its site (5)
4 Start (5)
5 Sudden unreasoning fear (5)
6 Bemoan, deplore or lament (3)
7 Amusement park and recreation centre in Cubbon Park (3,6)
9 Artificial sweetener (9)
12 As hard as _____? (5)
13 Sneeze sound (5)
15 Sphere of action (5)
16 Spring flower (5)
20 More chilly or colder (5)
21 Compass point at the top (5)
22 Bamboo stick fencing (5)
23 Japanese-American (5)
26 Loutish dolt (3)
28 A little work (3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS N

WX YFW TMYFHWV CQHKM UNFK NM UFV UNMW NM TM-DXSWHLMV NHYVMIR.

Linemaro

Hi, where were you all my life?

Mindchow

Being a nerd, which is to say going too far and caring too much about a subject, is the best way to make friends I know

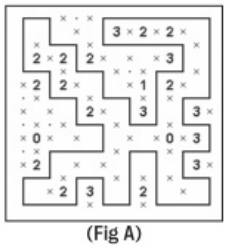
Joke of the day

Teacher: Name two animals that live in a cold region.
Student: A polar bear and his wife

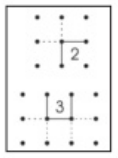
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

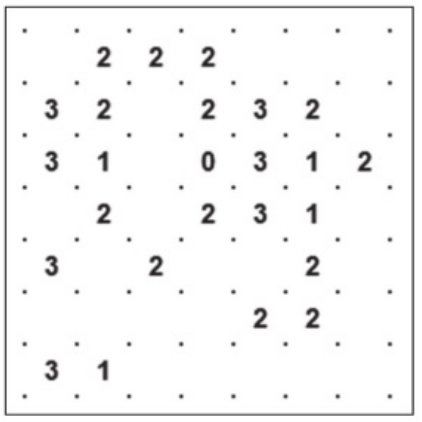


(Fig B) Not Allowed

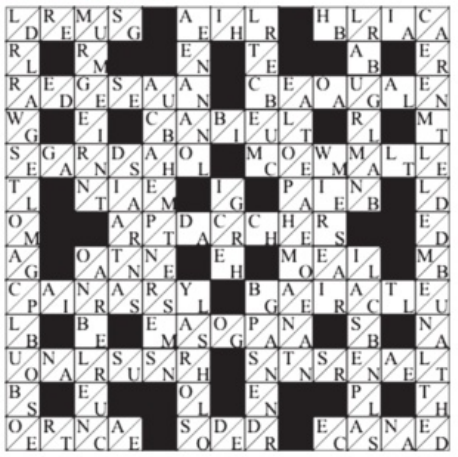
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



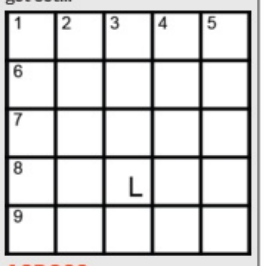
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Ch Bat; 6 Or ape; 7 Sires; 8 Stile; 9 Peach

DOWN

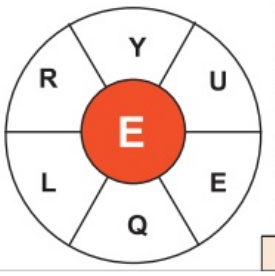
1 Or Bic; 2 Aphis; 3 Least; 4 Crepe; 5 As the

Mensapuzzle

All of the following numbers except one belong together based on a common, simple property. Which number is the odd one out?

17 29 61 79 97 133 181 211

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

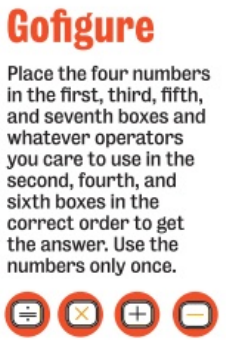
SudokuChallenge

		5			7			9
6	9	2					1	
		8	1					3
		7		5	3			4
			7		2			
8			9	1		7		
2					1	9		
	1					2	4	8
7			6			3		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

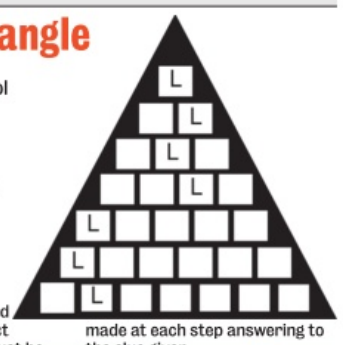
Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Tree trunk is thinner. 4. Zipper is added. 5. Window is moved. 6. Man is thinner.

Riddler

I have many numbers, usually 50. But, of those numbers, showing are only 13 minus 3. I am usually heavy, though I am small in size. I can be used for storing a prize! I come with a special code of sorts, usually numbers 3. Sometimes memorization can be hard, or easy! What Am I?

Alpha triangle

1 Litre
2 Aluminium symbol
3 English beer
4 Mall event
5 Is first
6 Spoons out
7 Refers, ascribes or attributes

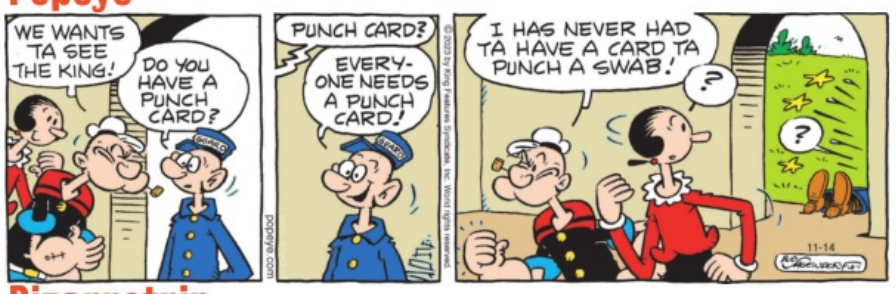


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

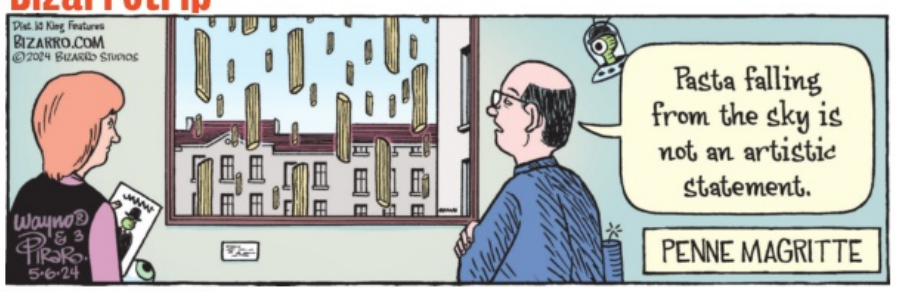
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

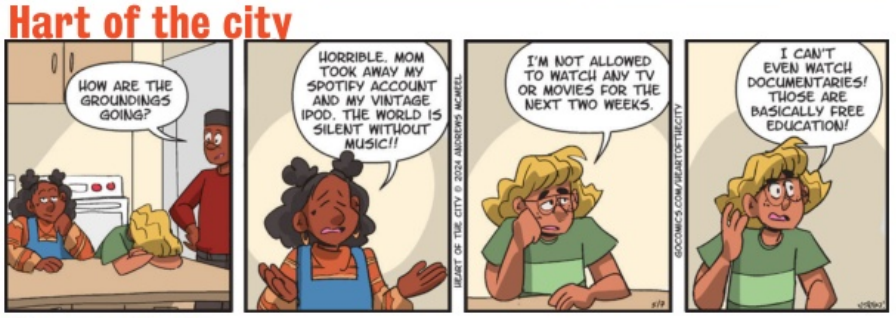

WE WANTS TA SEE THE KING!
DO YOU HAVE A PUNCH CARD?
PUNCH CARD?
EVERY-ONE NEEDS A PUNCH CARD!
I HAS NEVER HAD TA HAVE A CARD TA PUNCH A SWAB!
?
?
11-14

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


HOW ARE THE GROUNDINGS GOING?
HORRIBLE. MOM TOOK AWAY MY SPOTIFY ACCOUNT AND MY VINTAGE IPOD. THE WORLD IS SILENT WITHOUT MUSIC!!
I'M NOT ALLOWED TO WATCH ANY TV OR MOVIES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.
I CAN'T EVEN WATCH DOCUMENTARIES! THOSE ARE BASICALLY FREE EDUCATION!
HART OF THE CITY
@DOUGMCS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

UH, LILLIAN... WOULD YOU MIND STAYING FOR A MINUTE?
THERE'S SOMETHING PERSONAL I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU.
MR. DINKLE! I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT I'M NOT THAT KIND OF...
EXCUSE ME? IT'S ABOUT SINGING.
SORRY... I THOUGHT WE WERE HAVING A ME TOO MOMENT.
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
5-6

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon; you may enjoy your family and professional life. You may become polite with the people around you, which may help in the smooth completion of your work. You may find some new sources of earnings, which may boost your savings. You may also plan to renovate your house or office.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may enjoy work, and you may get rewards for your hard work. Your social respect may be increased now. Overworking your mind may make you tired, and due to your workload, you may not be able to attend some family events. Chronic health issues related to your parents may be cured now.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may be satisfied with your work, and you may plan for a short work-related trip. You may also plan to visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your elders may likely show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, your moon becomes negative; you may feel dull. It is advised to keep your mind cool. It is the golden rule for you to think twice before you act. You may travel to recover your money; otherwise, you may lose it. You are also advised to avoid going on an adventure tour. Students are advised to go for in-depth study to achieve success.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon; you may feel good, and domestic harmony may make you happy. You may meet some influential people who may help you get some benefits on the job front. You may perform well in your job, and you may expect some rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes over inherited property are likely to settle now.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon; you may be healthy, and you may be able to focus on your goals. Your performance may be very good at work, your boss may be happy with you, and you may get some important responsibilities at work. You may hear good news in any legal matter. You are likely to control your opponents and business rivals.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may prefer gaining knowledge, and you may understand the value of intellectual assets. Keeping control over your short temper may help you perform your tasks smoothly. There may be some chances for smooth earnings, which may give you comfort in the work flow. You are advised to be careful before making new investments in assets. You are likely to spend money on love once. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, your moon becomes negative; you may feel negativity around you. You may find your responsibilities to be a burden, so you may be in a hurry to complete the task given to you and make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may slow down, which may affect your day-to-day work. Your projects may be likely to be delayed, which may affect your running projects. You may seek advice from your elders before making any important decisions.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon; you may hear good news from your sibling(s). You may spend your time with family and friends. With the help of creativity, you may plan to renovate your house or office. You may start new partnerships with the family member, which will be beneficial in the near future. Your subordinates at the office may help you in terms of the project.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel negative. Tasks become incomplete, and you may be a victim of mood swings. Your patience may be tested many times, and silly mistakes may make you confused about how to complete your work. Lovebirds find themselves confused in terms of feelings. More expectations may affect your emotional attachment to your spouse. You are advised to take care of your parents. Students may lose their concentration.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, a positive moon may help you; you may feel happiness and peace of mind. You may work efficiently in your professional life, and your subordinates may cooperate with you to make some important business decisions. You may plan to start some new venture with the help of your siblings and network, which may be beneficial to the growth of your business. It is advised to take proper rest to maintain your enthusiasm.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may have detachment from your given responsibilities. You may also spend more on purchasing worthless stuff, which may increase negativity in the house or office. You are advised to keep an eye on your opponents and rivals; otherwise, you may be a victim of a conspiracy. It is advised to read documents carefully before submitting your signature.

KIDZONE

Greeshma Ramananda, 7 Years, New Cambridge School

Gowri Krishnan V, 9 Years, JGRVK School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
728
You start with a 12 unit cube.
After removing the outer layer you are left with a 10 unit cube.
The difference between the two is (12³-10³)=728
1728-1000=728

BULL'S EYE
leer, leery, lure, lyre, query, QUEERLY, reel, rely, rule

STRIKE OUT

FAST FIVE

C	H	A	P	E
I	S	L	E	T
R	I	S	E	S
O	P	E	R	A
B	A	T	C	H

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE
133; All the other numbers are prime.
133 is 19 x 7.

RIDDLER
A combination lock.

QUOTE UNCODE
No man remains quite what he was when he recognizes himself.

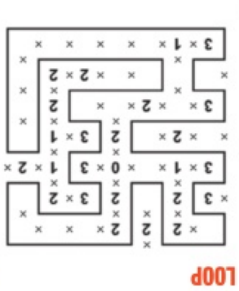
SUDOKU

1	3	5	2	6	7	4	8	9
6	9	2	4	3	8	5	1	7
4	7	8	1	9	5	6	2	3
9	2	7	8	5	3	1	6	4
3	6	1	7	4	2	8	9	5
8	5	4	9	1	6	7	3	2
2	4	3	5	8	1	9	7	6
5	1	6	3	7	9	2	4	8
7	8	9	6	2	4	3	5	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, Al, Ale, Sale, Leads, Ladies, Alludes.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 - 4 + 9 - 9 = 5
Medium
8 + 9 + 7 - 6 = 18
Hard
4 - 2 x 6 x 2 = 24

LOOP



KAKURO

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They're engaged

Sobhita and Naga Chaitanya kept the ceremony and their attire traditional

After months of speculation, Sobhita and Naga Chaitanya have finally made it official! The couple got engaged in a traditional ceremony on Thursday, reportedly at Naga's residence.

The first pictures from the special occasion, shared by Nagarjuna, reflect tradition, love and togetherness. Sobhita and Naga Chaitanya opted for customised attires by Manish Malhotra for their special day. Decoding their attire, the designer shared on social media, "Draped in a medley of textile specially sourced from the weaving communities of Andhra Pradesh, Sobhita was keen that this personal moment reflect her roots as well as pay homage to its rich traditions. She is wearing Uppada silk (from the region Uppada, Andhra Pradesh) in the golden blush colour of the Kanakaambaram, a traditional temple flower commonly worn in the hair by Telugu women as well as the eternal Padmam (lotus). The silhouette, referenced from paintings of iconic Telugu artist 'Bapu' - is a derivation of the classic half-saree style worn by young women of South India."

Revealing the thought behind Naga's attire, Manish shared, "Naga Chaitanya is wearing our interpretation of the classic Pattu pancha, laalchi and kanduva- a traditional 3 piece set worn by the men of Andhra Pradesh. The elegance of ivory brocade and muted gold tussar silk is complimented with accents of dori work in antique gold zari." Wishing the couple a blissful life, he added, "Congratulations and Lots of love to this Beautiful couple on their Engagement.The Nischitaardham (engagement) ceremony of Stunning Sobhita Dhulipala and Gorgeous Naga Chaitanya Akkineni."

— ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Age no bar

The latest Kannada movie that stresses on the story is Vikasaparva that highlights the importance of humility.

The trailer and songs of Vikasaparva were launched at Renukamba Preview Theater. Pranayaraja Srinath, hero of yesteryears, was the chief guest at the function. Srinath said he was very happy with the trailer and the three songs. "If the quality of songs and trailer is any indication, it seems the movie Vikasaparva will become a huge success at the box office. Both the hero and the heroine are looking good in the song sequences. The movie is about love between middle-aged couples. I think there is no age limit for people to fall in love," said Srinath with a smile.

Lahari Velu, who bought the audio rights of Vikasaparva, advised Kannada movie producers to focus on quality of movies instead of quantity. "I wish the cast and crew all the best," said Velu. Rohit Nagesh, who acted in Marali Manege that was released in 2017, plays the lead while Swathi is paired opposite him.

Unique title

The title of Kedarnath Kuri Farm (Kedarnath Sheep Farm) is creating a buzz among movie goers. Billed as an out-and-out comedy, Kedarnath Kuri Farm is scheduled for release on August 30. It is the second movie for Srinivas Sagar as a director. The movie was shot at Bengaluru, Magadi, and Sakaleshpur. "There is no connection between the title of the movie and the pilgrimage place Kedarnath. Watch this movie at theaters to know why I have selected this title. The movie does not preach any religion or a belief. It is a comedy that highlights the importance of taking the right decision at the right time," said Sagar.

The movie features Madenur Manu, Shivani, Kari Subbu, Tennis Krishna and others. "The movie revolves around a group of lazy youths who fail to realise the importance of hard work. The movie also highlights the ill-effects of liquor," said the director. He said Comedy Kiladigalu fame Madenur Manu has six lakh followers on social media and it would help the movie Kedarnath Kuri Farm. "Most of the movies being made in Kannada are either action and crime, or love-oriented movies. Not many comedy movies have been released in recent months. So, we are expecting a good response to our film," he said.

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